

Proposed 2013 Session Legislation

Agency Name & No: Office of the State Public Defender - 61080

Priority Number: Filename:

Short Title: Eliminate Jail Time for Certain Offenses

Agency Contact Person/Phone: Harry Freebourn, 496-6084

1. Purpose:

To amend various statutes to remove jail time as a penalty for certain misdemeanors

2. Background:

Certain misdemeanors have jail time as a possible penalty. The threat of jail time requires the services of a public defender. If jail time was not an option, the agency would not need to represent clients charged with these offenses. This action may slow the growth in public defender cases and may reduce the need for future increases in funding. Amends multiple statutes; was introduced as SB 50 in 2011 session.

3. Fiscal Impact by Fund Type: This impact should be as specific as possible.

Unknown level of cost savings

4. Summary Checklist [Check & complete all that apply]--

- Housekeeping Only Federal Requirement Audit Recommendation (Audit No.) Major Legislation
- Anticipated to be Controversial Legislation Bill Draft has been included in Legislation Submittal (if available)
- Supports Submitted EPP Item Number: Local Government Fiscal Impact
- Increases FTE, or Decreases FTE by List FTE amount and program
- Increases Existing Revenue Tax Fee Penalty [amount in #3]
- Decreases Existing Revenue Tax Fee Penalty [amount in #3]
- Establishes New Revenue Tax Fee Penalty [amount in #3]
- Leg. has been Submitted in Previous Legislative Sessions (list priority no, LC no, or bill no). SB 50
- Legislation would affect other state agencies (list):
- Special Interest Groups Affected (list):
- Other:

SENATE BILL NO. 50

INTRODUCED BY S. GALLUS

BY REQUEST OF THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN MISDEMEANOR OFFENSES; ELIMINATING JAIL TIME FOR CERTAIN MISDEMEANOR OFFENSES; AMENDING SECTIONS 45-6-301, 45-6-302, 45-6-305, 45-6-316, 45-8-101, 45-8-111, 61-5-102, 61-5-212, 61-6-302, AND 61-6-304, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 45-6-301, MCA, is amended to read:

"45-6-301. Theft. (1) A person commits the offense of theft when the person purposely or knowingly obtains or exerts unauthorized control over property of the owner and:

(a) has the purpose of depriving the owner of the property;

(b) purposely or knowingly uses, conceals, or abandons the property in a manner that deprives the owner of the property; or

(c) uses, conceals, or abandons the property knowing that the use, concealment, or abandonment probably will deprive the owner of the property.

(2) A person commits the offense of theft when the person purposely or knowingly obtains by threat or deception control over property of the owner and:

(a) has the purpose of depriving the owner of the property;

(b) purposely or knowingly uses, conceals, or abandons the property in a manner that deprives the owner of the property; or

(c) uses, conceals, or abandons the property knowing that the use, concealment, or abandonment probably will deprive the owner of the property.

(3) A person commits the offense of theft when the person purposely or knowingly obtains control over stolen property knowing the property to have been stolen by another and:

(a) has the purpose of depriving the owner of the property;

(b) purposely or knowingly uses, conceals, or abandons the property in a manner that deprives the

1 owner of the property; or

2 (c) uses, conceals, or abandons the property knowing that the use, concealment, or abandonment
3 probably will deprive the owner of the property.

4 (4) A person commits the offense of theft when the person purposely or knowingly obtains or exerts
5 unauthorized control over any part of any public assistance provided under Title 52 or 53 by a state or county
6 agency, regardless of the original source of assistance, by means of:

7 (a) a knowingly false statement, representation, or impersonation; or

8 (b) a fraudulent scheme or device.

9 (5) A person commits the offense of theft when the person purposely or knowingly obtains or exerts or
10 helps another obtain or exert unauthorized control over any part of any benefits provided under Title 39, chapter
11 71, by means of:

12 (a) a knowingly false statement, representation, or impersonation; or

13 (b) deception or other fraudulent action.

14 (6) (a) A person commits the offense of theft when the person purposely or knowingly commits insurance
15 fraud as provided in 33-1-1202 or 33-1-1302;

16 (b) purposely or knowingly diverts or misappropriates insurance premiums as provided in 33-17-1102;

17 or

18 (c) purposely or knowingly receives small business health insurance premium incentive payments or
19 premium assistance payments or tax credits under Title 33, chapter 22, part 20, to which the person is not
20 entitled.

21 (7) A person commits the offense of theft of property by embezzlement when, with the purpose to deprive
22 the owner of the property, the person:

23 (a) purposely or knowingly obtains or exerts unauthorized control over property of the person's employer
24 or over property entrusted to the person; or

25 (b) purposely or knowingly obtains by deception control over property of the person's employer or over
26 property entrusted to the person.

27 (8) (a) Except as provided in subsection (8)(b), a person convicted of the offense of theft of property not
28 exceeding \$1,500 in value shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$1,500 ~~or be imprisoned in the county jail for~~
29 ~~a term not to exceed 6 months, or both.~~ A person convicted of a second offense shall be fined \$1,500 or be
30 imprisoned in the county jail for a term not to exceed 6 months, or both. A person convicted of a third or

1 subsequent offense shall be fined \$1,500 and be imprisoned in the county jail for a term of not less than 30 days
2 or more than 6 months.

3 (b) (i) Except as provided in subsection (8)(c), a person convicted of the offense of theft of property
4 exceeding \$1,500 in value or theft of any amount of anhydrous ammonia for the purpose of manufacturing
5 dangerous drugs shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$50,000 or be imprisoned in a state prison for a term
6 not to exceed 10 years, or both.

7 (ii) A person convicted of the theft of any commonly domesticated hooved animal shall be fined an amount
8 of not less than \$5,000 or more than \$50,000 or be imprisoned in a state prison for a term not to exceed 10 years,
9 or both. If a prison term is deferred, the court shall order the offender to perform 416 hours of community service
10 during a 1-year period, in the offender's county of residence. In addition to the fine and imprisonment, the
11 offender's property is subject to criminal forfeiture pursuant to 45-6-328 and 45-6-329.

12 (c) A person convicted of the offense of theft of property exceeding \$10,000 in value by embezzlement
13 shall be imprisoned in a state prison for a term of not less than 1 year or more than 10 years and may be fined
14 an amount not to exceed \$50,000. The court may, in its discretion, place the person on probation with the
15 requirement that restitution be made under terms set by the court. If the terms are not met, the required prison
16 term may be ordered.

17 (9) Amounts involved in thefts committed pursuant to a common scheme or the same transaction,
18 whether from the same person or several persons, may be aggregated in determining the value of the property."

19

20 **Section 2.** Section 45-6-302, MCA, is amended to read:

21 **"45-6-302. Theft of lost or mislaid property.** (1) A person who obtains control over lost or mislaid
22 property commits the offense of theft when the person:

23 (a) knows or learns the identity of the owner or knows, is aware of, or learns of a reasonable method of
24 identifying the owner;

25 (b) fails to take reasonable measures to restore the property to the owner; and

26 (c) has the purpose of depriving the owner permanently of the use or benefit of the property.

27 (2) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), a A person convicted of theft of lost or mislaid property:

28 (i) not exceeding \$1,500 in value shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$500; or

29 (ii) exceeding \$1,500 in value shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$500 or be imprisoned in the county
30 jail for a period not to exceed 6 months.

1 (b) A person convicted of a second or subsequent offense of theft of lost or mislaid property shall be
 2 fined an amount not to exceed \$500 or be imprisoned in the county jail for a period not to exceed 6 months."

3
 4 **Section 3.** Section 45-6-305, MCA, is amended to read:
 5 **"45-6-305. Theft of labor or services or use of property.** (1) A person commits the offense of theft
 6 when the person obtains the temporary use of property, labor, or services of another that are available only for
 7 hire, by means of threat or deception or knowing that the use is without the consent of the person providing the
 8 property, labor, or services.

9 (2) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), a ~~A~~ person convicted of theft of labor or services or use
 10 of property shall be fined not to exceed \$500 ~~or be imprisoned in the county jail for a term not to exceed 6 months,~~
 11 ~~or both.~~

12 (b) A person convicted of a second or subsequent offense of theft of labor or services or use of property
 13 shall be fined not to exceed \$500 or be imprisoned in the county jail for a period not to exceed 6 months."

14
 15 **Section 4.** Section 45-6-316, MCA, is amended to read:
 16 **"45-6-316. Issuing a bad check.** (1) A person commits the offense of issuing a bad check when the
 17 person issues or delivers a check or other order upon a real or fictitious depository for the payment of money
 18 knowing that it will not be paid by the depository.

19 (2) If the offender has an account with the depository, failure to make good the check or other order
 20 within 5 days after written notice of nonpayment has been received by the issuer is prima facie evidence that the
 21 offender knew that it would not be paid by the depository.

22 (3) (a) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), a ~~A~~ person convicted of issuing a bad check shall be
 23 fined not to exceed \$1,500 ~~or be imprisoned in the county jail for any term not to exceed 6 months, or both.~~

24 (b) If the offender has engaged in issuing bad checks that are part of a common scheme or if the value
 25 of any property, labor, or services obtained or attempted to be obtained exceeds \$1,500, the offender shall be
 26 fined not to exceed \$50,000 or be imprisoned in the state prison for ~~any~~ a term not to exceed 10 years, or both."

27
 28 **Section 5.** Section 45-8-101, MCA, is amended to read:
 29 **"45-8-101. Disorderly conduct.** (1) A person commits the offense of disorderly conduct if the person
 30 knowingly disturbs the peace by:

- 1 (a) quarreling, challenging to fight, or fighting;
 2 (b) making loud or unusual noises;
 3 (c) using threatening, profane, or abusive language;
 4 (d) discharging firearms, except at a shooting range during established hours of operation;
 5 (e) rendering vehicular or pedestrian traffic impassable;
 6 (f) rendering the free ingress or egress to public or private places impassable;
 7 (g) disturbing or disrupting any lawful assembly or public meeting;
 8 (h) transmitting a false report or warning of a fire or other catastrophe in a place where its occurrence
 9 would endanger human life;
 10 (i) creating a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act that serves no legitimate purpose;
 11 or
 12 (j) transmitting a false report or warning of an impending explosion in a place where its occurrence would
 13 endanger human life.

14 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3), a person convicted of the offense of disorderly conduct shall
 15 be fined not to exceed \$100 or be imprisoned in the county jail for a term not to exceed ~~40~~ 1 ~~days~~ day, or both.

16 (3) A person convicted of a violation of subsection (1)(j) shall be fined not to exceed \$1,000 or be
 17 imprisoned in the county jail for a term not to exceed 1 year, or both."

18
 19 **Section 6.** Section 45-8-111, MCA, is amended to read:

20 **"45-8-111. Public nuisance.** (1) "Public nuisance" means:

21 (a) a condition that endangers safety or health, is offensive to the senses, or obstructs the free use of
 22 property so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property by an entire community or
 23 neighborhood or by any considerable number of persons;

24 (b) any premises where persons gather for the purpose of engaging in unlawful conduct; or

25 (c) a condition that renders dangerous for passage any public highway or right-of-way or waters used
 26 by the public.

27 (2) A person commits the offense of maintaining a public nuisance if the person knowingly creates,
 28 conducts, or maintains a public nuisance.

29 (3) Any act that affects an entire community or neighborhood or any considerable number of persons,
 30 as specified in subsection (1)(a), is no less a nuisance because the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted

1 upon individuals is unequal.

2 (4) An agricultural or farming operation, a place, an establishment, or a facility or any of its
3 appurtenances or the operation of those things is not or does not become a public nuisance because of its normal
4 operation as a result of changed residential or commercial conditions in or around its locality if the agricultural
5 or farming operation, place, establishment, or facility has been in operation longer than the complaining resident
6 has been in possession or commercial establishment has been in operation.

7 (5) Noises resulting from the shooting activities at a shooting range during established hours of operation
8 are not considered a public nuisance.

9 (6) A person convicted of maintaining a public nuisance shall be fined not to exceed \$500 ~~or be~~
10 ~~imprisoned in the county jail for a term not to exceed 6 months, or both.~~ Each day of the conduct constitutes a
11 separate offense."
12

13 **Section 7.** Section 61-5-102, MCA, is amended to read:

14 **"61-5-102. Drivers to be licensed -- penalties.** (1) (a) Except as provided in 61-5-104, a person may
15 not drive a motor vehicle upon a highway in this state unless the person has a valid Montana driver's license. A
16 person may not receive a Montana driver's license until the person surrenders to the department all valid driver's
17 licenses issued by any other jurisdiction. A person may not have in the person's possession or under the person's
18 control more than one valid Montana driver's license at any time.

19 (b) Except as provided in subsection (1)(c), the penalty for a ~~first~~ violation of this section is a fine of not
20 more than \$500, ~~imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both a fine and imprisonment.~~ ~~The penalty for~~
21 ~~second and subsequent violations of this section is a fine of not more than \$500 and imprisonment for not less~~
22 ~~than 2 days or more than 6 months.~~

23 (c) A person who is eligible to hold a driver's license and has obtained a valid driver's license but has
24 not renewed the license as provided in 61-5-111(3)(c) is not subject to the penalties in subsection (1)(b).

25 (2) (a) (i) Except as provided in subsection (2)(a)(ii), a license is not valid for the operation of a
26 motorcycle unless the holder of the license has completed the requirements of 61-5-110 and the license has been
27 clearly marked with the words "motorcycle endorsement".

28 (ii) A motorcycle endorsement is not required for the operation of a motorcycle that is propelled by an
29 electric motor or other device that transforms stored electrical energy into the motion of the vehicle, has a fully
30 enclosed cab, is equipped with three wheels in contact with the ground, and is equipped with a seat and

1 seatbelts.

2 (b) A license is not valid for the operation of a commercial motor vehicle unless the holder of the license
3 has completed the requirements of 61-5-110, the license has been clearly marked with the words "commercial
4 driver's license", and the license bears the proper endorsement for:

5 (i) the specific vehicle type or types being operated; or

6 (ii) the passengers or type or types of cargo being transported.

7 (3) When a city or town requires a licensed driver to obtain a local driving license or permit, a license or
8 permit may not be issued unless the applicant presents a state driver's license valid under the provisions of this
9 chapter."

10

11 **Section 8.** Section 61-5-212, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"61-5-212. Driving while license suspended or revoked -- penalty -- second offense of driving**
13 **without valid license or licensing exemption -- seizure of vehicle or rendering vehicle inoperable.** (1) (a)

14 A person commits the offense of driving a motor vehicle without a valid license or without statutory exemption or
15 during a suspension or revocation period if the person drives:

16 (i) a motor vehicle on any public highway of this state at a time when the person's privilege to drive or
17 apply for and be issued a driver's license is suspended or revoked in this state or any other state;

18 (ii) a commercial motor vehicle while the person's commercial driver's license is revoked, suspended,
19 or canceled in this state or any other state or the person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle
20 or from obtaining a commercial driver's license; or

21 (iii) a motor vehicle on any public highway of this state without possessing a valid driver's license, as
22 provided in 61-5-102, or without proof of a statutory exemption, as provided in 61-5-104.

23 (b) (i) Except as provided in subsection (1)(b)(ii), a person convicted of the offense of driving a motor
24 vehicle without a valid driver's license or without proof of a statutory exemption for the second time or driving
25 during a suspension or revocation period shall be ~~punished by imprisonment for not less than 2 days or more than~~
26 ~~6 months and may be~~ fined not more than \$500.

27 (ii) If the reason for the suspension or revocation was that the person was convicted of a violation of
28 61-8-401 or 61-8-406 or a similar offense under the laws of any other state or the suspension was under 61-8-402
29 or 61-8-409 or a similar law of any other state for refusal to take a test for alcohol or drugs requested by a peace
30 officer who believed that the person might be driving under the influence, the person shall be punished by

1 imprisonment for a term of not less than 2 days or more than 6 months or a fine not to exceed \$2,000, or both,
2 and in addition, the court may order the person to perform up to 40 hours of community service.

3 (2) (a) Upon receiving a record of the conviction of any person under this section upon a charge of
4 driving a noncommercial vehicle while the person's driver's license, privilege to drive, or privilege to apply for and
5 be issued a driver's license was suspended or revoked, the department shall extend the period of suspension
6 or revocation for an additional 1-year period.

7 (b) Upon receiving a record of the conviction of any person under this section upon a charge of driving
8 a commercial motor vehicle while the person's commercial driver's license was revoked, suspended, or canceled
9 or the person was disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle under federal regulations, the
10 department shall suspend the person's commercial driver's license in accordance with 61-8-802.

11 (3) The vehicle owned and operated at the time of an offense under this section by a person whose
12 driver's license is suspended for violating the provisions of 61-8-401, 61-8-402, 61-8-406, 61-8-409, or 61-8-410
13 must, upon a person's first conviction, be seized or rendered inoperable by the county sheriff of the convicted
14 person's county of residence for a period of 30 days.

15 (4) The sentencing court shall order the action provided for under subsection (3) and shall specify the
16 date on which the vehicle is to be returned or again rendered operable. The vehicle must be seized or rendered
17 inoperable by the sheriff within 10 days after the conviction.

18 (5) A convicted person is responsible for all costs associated with actions taken under subsection (3).
19 Joint ownership of the vehicle with another person does not prohibit the actions required by subsection (3) unless
20 the sentencing court determines that those actions would constitute an extreme hardship on a joint owner who
21 is determined to be without fault.

22 (6) A court may not suspend or defer imposition of penalties provided by this section."
23

24 **Section 9.** Section 61-6-302, MCA, is amended to read:

25 **"61-6-302. Proof of compliance.** (1) The registration receipt required by 61-3-322 must contain a
26 statement that unless the vehicle is eligible for an exemption under 61-6-303, it is unlawful to operate the vehicle
27 without a valid motor vehicle liability insurance policy, a certificate of self-insurance, or a posted indemnity bond,
28 as required by 61-6-301.

29 (2) Each owner or operator of a motor vehicle shall carry in the motor vehicle an insurance card
30 approved by the department but issued by the insurance carrier to the motor vehicle owner as proof of

1 compliance with 61-6-301. If the card is issued under a commercial automobile insurance policy or a self-insured
 2 fleet, the card must indicate the status as "commercially insured" or "fleet". A motor vehicle owner or operator
 3 shall exhibit the insurance card upon demand of a justice of the peace, a city or municipal judge, a peace officer,
 4 a highway patrol officer, or a field deputy or inspector of the department. A person commits an offense under this
 5 subsection if the person fails to carry the insurance card in a motor vehicle or fails to exhibit the insurance card
 6 upon demand of a person specified in this subsection.

7 (3) Beginning July 1, 2011, a person charged with violating subsection (2) may not be convicted if:

8 (a) the ~~arresting~~ officer or another person authorized to access information from the online motor vehicle
 9 liability insurance verification system under 61-6-309 submits to the system a request that provides proof of
 10 insurance valid at the time of arrest; or

11 (b) if the system under 61-6-157 is not available, the person produces in court or the office of the
 12 ~~arresting~~ officer proof of insurance valid at the time of arrest.

13 (4) In lieu of charging an operator who is not the owner of a vehicle with violating subsection (2), the
 14 officer may issue a complaint and notice to appear charging the owner with a violation of 61-6-301 and serve the
 15 complaint and notice to appear on the owner of the vehicle:

16 (a) personally; or

17 (b) by certified mail, return receipt requested, at the address for the owner listed on the registration
 18 receipt for the vehicle or, following query through available law enforcement systems, at the address maintained
 19 for the vehicle's owner by the jurisdiction in which the vehicle is titled and registered, or both."

20

21 **Section 10.** Section 61-6-304, MCA, is amended to read:

22 **"61-6-304. Penalties.** (1) Conviction of a first offense under 61-6-301 or 61-6-302 is punishable by a
 23 fine of not less than \$250 or more than \$500 ~~or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 10 days, or~~
 24 ~~both.~~ A second conviction is punishable by a fine of \$350 ~~or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than~~
 25 ~~10 days, or both.~~ A third or subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine of \$500 or by imprisonment in the
 26 county jail for not more than 6 months, or both.

27 (2) Upon a second or subsequent conviction under 61-6-301 or 61-6-302, the sentencing court shall
 28 order the surrender of the vehicle registration receipt and license plates for the vehicle operated at the time of
 29 the offense if that vehicle was operated by the registered owner or a member of the registered owner's immediate
 30 family or by a person whose operation of that vehicle was authorized by the registered owner. The court shall

1 report the surrender of the registration receipt and license plates to the department, which shall immediately
2 suspend the vehicle's registration. The vehicle's registration status may not be reinstated until proof of compliance
3 with 61-6-301 is furnished to the department, but if the vehicle is transferred to a new owner, the new owner is
4 entitled to register the vehicle. The surrendered license plates must be recycled or destroyed by the court unless
5 the court decides to retain the license plates for the owner until the registration suspension has been completed
6 or the requirements for a restricted registration receipt have been met. Upon proof of compliance with 61-6-301
7 and payment of fees required under 61-3-333 for replacement license plates and registration decal and under
8 61-3-341 for a replacement registration receipt, during the period of 90 days from the date of a second conviction
9 or 180 days from the date of a third or subsequent conviction, the department shall issue a restricted registration
10 receipt to the offender. A restricted registration receipt limits the use of the motor vehicle operated at the time of
11 the offense to use solely for employment purposes until the date indicated on the restricted registration receipt.

12 (3) Upon a fourth or subsequent conviction under 61-6-301 or 61-6-302, the court shall order the
13 surrender of the driver's license of the offender, if the vehicle operated at the time of the offense was registered
14 to the offender or a member of the offender's immediate family. The court shall send the driver's license, along
15 with a copy of the complaint and the dispositional order, to the department, which shall immediately suspend the
16 driver's license. The department may not reinstate a driver's license suspended under this subsection until the
17 registered owner provides the department proof of compliance with 61-6-301 and the department determines that
18 the registered owner is otherwise eligible for licensure.

19 (4) The court may suspend a required fine only upon a determination that the offender is or will be unable
20 to pay the fine.

21 (5) A court may not defer imposition of penalties provided by this section.

22 (6) An offender is considered to have been previously convicted for the purposes of sentencing if less
23 than 5 years have elapsed between the commission of the present offense and a previous conviction."
24

25 NEW SECTION. **Section 11. Applicability.** [This act] applies to offenses committed on or after July 1,
26 2011.

27
28 NEW SECTION. **Section 12. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2011.

29 - END -

61-6-304. Penalties. (1) Conviction of a first offense under 61-6-301 or 61-6-302 is punishable by a fine of not less than \$250 or more than \$500 ~~or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 10 days, or both.~~ A second conviction is punishable by a fine of \$350 ~~or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 10 days, or both.~~ A third or subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine of \$500 or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 6 months, or both.

(2) Upon a second or subsequent conviction under 61-6-301 or 61-6-302, the sentencing court shall order the surrender of the vehicle registration receipt and license plates for the vehicle operated at the time of the offense if that vehicle was operated by the registered owner or a member of the registered owner's immediate family or by a person whose operation of that vehicle was authorized by the registered owner. The court shall report the surrender of the registration receipt and license plates to the department, which shall immediately suspend the vehicle's registration. The vehicle's registration status may not be reinstated until proof of compliance with 61-6-301 is furnished to the department, but if the vehicle is transferred to a new owner, the new owner is entitled to register the vehicle. The surrendered license plates must be recycled or destroyed by the court unless the court decides to retain the license plates for the owner until the registration suspension has been completed or the requirements for a restricted registration receipt have been met. Upon proof of compliance with 61-6-301 and payment of fees required under 61-3-333 for replacement license plates and registration decal and under 61-3-341 for a replacement registration receipt, during the period of 90 days from the date of a second conviction or 180 days from the date of a third or subsequent conviction, the department shall issue a restricted registration receipt to the offender. A restricted registration receipt limits the use of the motor vehicle operated at the time of the offense to use solely for employment purposes until the date indicated on the restricted registration receipt.

(3) Upon a fourth or subsequent conviction under 61-6-301 or 61-6-302, the court shall order the surrender of the driver's license of the offender, if the vehicle operated at the time of the offense was registered to the offender or a member of the offender's immediate family. The court shall send the driver's license, along with a copy of the complaint and the dispositional order, to the department, which shall immediately suspend the driver's license. The department may not reinstate a driver's license suspended under this subsection until the registered owner provides the department proof of compliance with 61-6-301 and the department determines that the registered owner is otherwise eligible for licensure.

(4) The court may suspend a required fine only upon a determination that the offender is or will be unable to pay the fine.

(5) A court may not defer imposition of penalties provided by this section.

(6) An offender is considered to have been previously convicted for the purposes of sentencing if less than 5 years have elapsed between the commission of the present offense and a previous conviction.